

2/9/72

EX-112

Airtel

1 - Mr. Huppert

55254 - 1

TO: SAC, Albuquerque

FROM: Director, FBI

BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR., aka

BUD

IMPERSONATION

OO: LA

ReAQairtel in captioned matter dated 2/2/72, and Butelcalls to WFO and LA dated 2/8/72.

For the information of Albuquerque and Dallas, the Bureau, in referenced telephone calls, instructed Washington Field and Los Angeles to disregard leads set forth for those offices by Albuquerque.

A review of Bureau files disclosed that captioned individual was formerly Chief Counsel of the U. S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary; Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure. During the four years he held this position, Fensterwald frequently contacted the Bureau. During his contacts he exhibited himself as unscrupulous, untrustworthy and anti-FBI. In January, 1969, it was publicly announced that a group of individuals were forming the "National Committee to Investigate Assassinations." Fensterwald was to be Executive Director of this committee, whose board members included Jim Garrison, District Attorney, New Orleans; [redacted]; Fred J. Cook, Author; and others.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12-4-96 BY SP4-BJA-ALB

Mr. Tolson 2 - Washington Field  
Mr. Felt 2 - Los Angeles  
Mr. Rosen 2 - Los Angeles  
Mr. Mohr 1 - Dallas (For information) #351592  
Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Miller, E.S.  
Mr. Callahan 1 - Bufile (62-112697) (Enclosure)  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Dalbey JDH:fir  
Mr. Cleveland (10)  
Mr. Ponder  
Mr. Bates  
Mr. Waikart  
Mr. Walters  
Mr. Soyars  
Tele. Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

FEB 14 1972

TELETYPE UNIT

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

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**Airtel to SAC, Albuquerque**  
**Re: Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.,**

**In view of the above, and, in view of the apparent mental state of [redacted], the source of information in referenced airtel, it is not felt that this matter should be pursued.**

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**NOTE:** By airtel dated 1/27/72, entitled "Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 11/22/63, Dallas, Texas, Miscellaneous - Information Concerning," Albuquerque was instructed to interview [redacted] for information allegedly in his possession concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. This information was furnished to the Bureau by Albuquerque airtel under the Kennedy caption dated 2/2/72.

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[redacted] was interviewed on 2/1/72, concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, at which time he furnished details of his own background. He said he is now a paraplegic, following a serious operation in July, 1971. At the time of interview, [redacted] desired to furnish details of his harassment by the "Federal Government" which lasted from 1967 to 1971.

[redacted] furnished rambling allegations concerning his having been under surveillance; regarding his telephone being monitored; and reports that "the FBI was opening his mail.", etc. Included in his rambling, were references to Bernard Fensterwald, Jr., Arlington, Virginia, whom [redacted] claimed displayed FBI credentials to [redacted]. [redacted] further alleged that Fensterwald gave [redacted] wife a Washington FBI telephone number where Fensterwald could be reached. Washington Field was requested to interview Fensterwald and Los Angeles was requested to conduct investigation at Upland, California, regarding allegation that an assistant Postmaster told [redacted] that the FBI was checking and/or confiscating his mail.

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In view of the nature of statements made by [redacted] and the unsavory reputation of Fensterwald, it is not felt this matter warrants investigation as an Impersonation case.

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FBI

Date: 2/2/72

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (47-New) P

SUBJECT: BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR., aka  
Bud  
IMPERSONATION  
00: Los Angeles

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 12-4-96 BY SP4-BJA-MLO

# 351592

MCT-27

Re Bureau airtel, 1/27/72, captioned "ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS, MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING," which instructed Albuquerque to interview [redacted] for full details concerning his willingness to make available information concerning the assassination of President KENNEDY.

By separate communication, the Albuquerque Office will furnish the Bureau the information [redacted] made available concerning the alleged plot involving LEE HARVEY OSWALD and others in the KENNEDY assassination.

On 2/1/72, [redacted], also known as [redacted] was interviewed at his residence in the presence of his wife [redacted]. [redacted] stated he is a paraplegic and has now retired following a serious operation in July, 1971. He said at one time he [redacted]

[redacted] He stated he moved from Virginia to Hollywood, California, in 1951 and seven years later moved to Upland, California, where he remained 13 years doing free lance writing.

- ③ - Bureau (RAM)  
(1 - 62-109060)
- 2 - WFO (RAM)
- 1 - Dallas (Info) (RAM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (RAM)
- 3 - Albuquerque  
(1 - 89-27)

GKM:mcc

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
FEB 14 1972 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-112697-

In 1967, he became acquainted with [ ] in Cucamonga, California. [ ] described [ ] as a former Union Steward at the Kaiser Steel Company, who now works as an auditor for a building materials company. [ ] recently moved to Ontario, California; however, at the time, [ ] became acquainted with him, he was a part-time bartender. While dining with his wife one night in a place where [ ] was tending bar, [ ] suggested he write a story on a friend of his, [ ] [ ] thought [ ] could sell this story to one of the adventure story magazines since [ ] was an

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Subsequently, [ ] contacted [ ] and began preparing an article for "True" magazine. [ ] not only informed [ ] about his life story but also hinted he had information concerning LEE HARVEY OSWALD being part of a conspiracy to kill President KENNEDY. This, of course, intrigued [ ] who thought he could write another story and have it published along these lines.

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About this time, according to [ ], he began to receive harassment from the "Federal Government," which lasted until 1971. According to [ ], this harassment consisted of having his mail opened and/or delayed. In this regard, he said he contacted the Assistant Postmaster at Upland, California, who at first denied there was any problem but who subsequently told him the FBI was opening his mail. [ ] had Post Office Box [ ] at Upland, California. Further, he felt certain his telephone was being monitored because whenever someone tried to make an outgoing call there were always voices in the background and the sound of some machinery, such as a typewriter. Furthermore, while holding telephone conversations, the operator interrupted on several occasions and indicated either he or a member of his family would have to get off the line because of an emergency. At one time the operator indicated there was an emergency involving a member of his family and he should hang up so that the authorities could contact him. He did so immediately but no call came in. When he tried to check this out, the telephone company and local authorities denied any knowledge of the affair. Also, according to [ ] he and members of his family were under surveillance by "always two men in dark business suits" during this period of time."

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In July, 1971, while he was in the hospital having an operation, two men came to his residence in Upland, California, and displayed what [ ] believed were FBI credentials. They then entered the residence and proceeded to the bedroom where they forced open a desk by breaking the lock. They said they were looking for "the manuscript," but did not take anything.

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*LAWYER*  
*D.C.* [ ] stated he received a letter dated 10/7/68 from BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR., 4036 North 27th Street, Arlington, Virginia, which stated FENSTERWALD was doing research with respect to the KENNEDY and KING assassinations. FENSTERWALD said it had come to his attention that [ ] and/or [ ] may have some very valuable information and it would be appreciated if they could make this available. He entered into correspondence with FENSTERWALD and determined he was a member of a law firm (FENSTERWALD and OHLHAUSEN, 927 15th Street, NW, Washington, D. C., 20005). He also received correspondence on letterhead paper of "COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS," which also had the address of 927 15th Street, Washington, D. C. Subsequently, he met FENSTERWALD and according to [ ] FENSTERWALD displayed to him FBI credentials. Also during the time he was in the hospital, FENSTERWALD contacted his residence and gave his wife a telephone number where he could be reached in Washington, D. C., which he said was the FBI telephone number. [ ] claims she verified this was FBI Headquarters in Washington by checking with the telephone company.

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In July, 1971, following his release from the hospital, [ ] was determined to put an end to the harassment and discussed it with FENSTERWALD. FENSTERWALD told him that the harassment would stop if [ ] would write him a letter in care of the FBI in Washington, D. C., and state in his letter that he was going to stop investigating the assassination. He was to send a copy of this letter to the Central Intelligence Agency in McLean, Virginia. [ ] said he did not write this letter but did cease his efforts to prepare a story for publication.

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About three months ago, [ ] moved to Albuquerque. He said he has not suffered any harassment since his move, but his married daughter, [ ] who remained in Upland, California, with her husband, called him about a week ago and advised she was still being followed. She further stated, according to [ ], that a friend of hers whose mother works in the Post Office, asked her what sort of scandal her

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AQ 47-New

parents were involved in since the mother had said the FBI had confiscated all of their mail at the Upland Post Office and thus prevented it from being forwarded to [ ] in Albuquerque.

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[ ] also has been in contact with JAMES GARRISON concerning the alleged KENNEDY assassination plot and advised he learned from GARRISON that FENSTERWALD has held the following positions:

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Lieutenant in U. S. Navy;  
Chief Legal Advisor to Senator EDWARD LONG of Missouri;  
Chief Counsel for the Senate Sub-Committee on  
Administrative Practices;  
Department of State Official in the Foreign Policy  
Division;  
Graduate of Harvard Law School

Albuquerque files contain no information concerning [ ] or his wife, or BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR. The files do indicate [ ]

[ ] He said he does not know the current whereabouts of [ ] but felt the San Bernardino Resident Agency would have this information. In this connection, [ ] stated he would appreciate it if the FBI would not advise either [ ] or [ ] that he was furnishing information concerning them to the FBI because he feared they would attempt retaliation against him or members of his family. He also requested no contact be made with his daughter, [ ], since he felt this would upset her further and could possibly jeopardize her employment. He did not state why he felt this would occur.

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[ ] stated he had abandoned all plans for publication of any material he has received from [ ] and that, in fact, he would have to forfeit his Government pension should he receive outside income. He said his purpose in contacting the FBI at this time was to cause an end to the harassment of him and his family, which they have suffered for over four years.

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AQ 47-New

Albuquerque believes that [ ] is sincere but definitely confused and that appropriate investigation should be conducted to determine if, in fact, FENSTERWALD and/or others are identifying themselves as FBI personnel. In this regard, the following leads are set forth:

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WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Interview BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR., to determine the nature of his association with [ ] and ascertain whether he ever displayed FBI credentials or furnished the FBI Headquarters telephone number as being his. Also determine whether he ever advised [ ] that harassment would stop if [ ] would write him a letter in care of the FBI in Washington, D. C.

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LOS ANGELES DIVISION

AT UPLAND, CALIFORNIA

Contact Postal authorities to determine whether any checks on the [ ] mail have been made and whether an Assistant Postmaster or other employee told [ ] that the FBI was checking his mail or confiscating his mail.

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